

Office of Congressman Charles W. Dent
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Congressman Dent takes close-up look at CDBG funding

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15) reiterated his support for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funding after he joined two colleagues in a visit Monday to Southwestern Pennsylvania for a first-hand look at how the program has helped with economic development in communities.

Congressman Tim Murphy (PA-18) invited House Government Reform Committee members to see how Pittsburgh communities use CDBG funds. Congressman Mike Turner (OH-3) and Congressman Dent respectively serve as chairman and vice-chairman of the Subcommittee on Federalism and the Census.

“I was pleased to learn communities in Southwestern Pennsylvania use CDBG funds as wisely as do the communities back home in the Lehigh Valley region,” Congressman Dent said. “These funds provide valuable assistance in important community-building efforts like home ownership.”

“Today's hearing gives us an opportunity to find ways of improving the program and making it more efficient,” Congressman Murphy said. “These programs cannot be fairly evaluated from 300 miles away in Washington. The best way to better CDBG is to bring Congress to local communities for a direct look at how they benefit from the money and hear their suggestions on ways to improve the program.”

In late February, Congressman Dent attended a large meeting of Lehigh Valley community organizations where he heard numerous concerns about

proposed streamlining of CDBG funds and how it might affect local services. Congressman Dent later shared some concerns at a March hearing of the Subcommittee on Federalism and the Census.

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